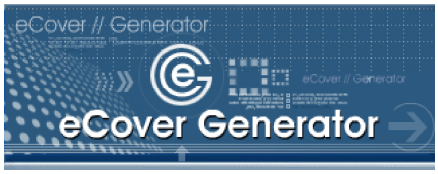


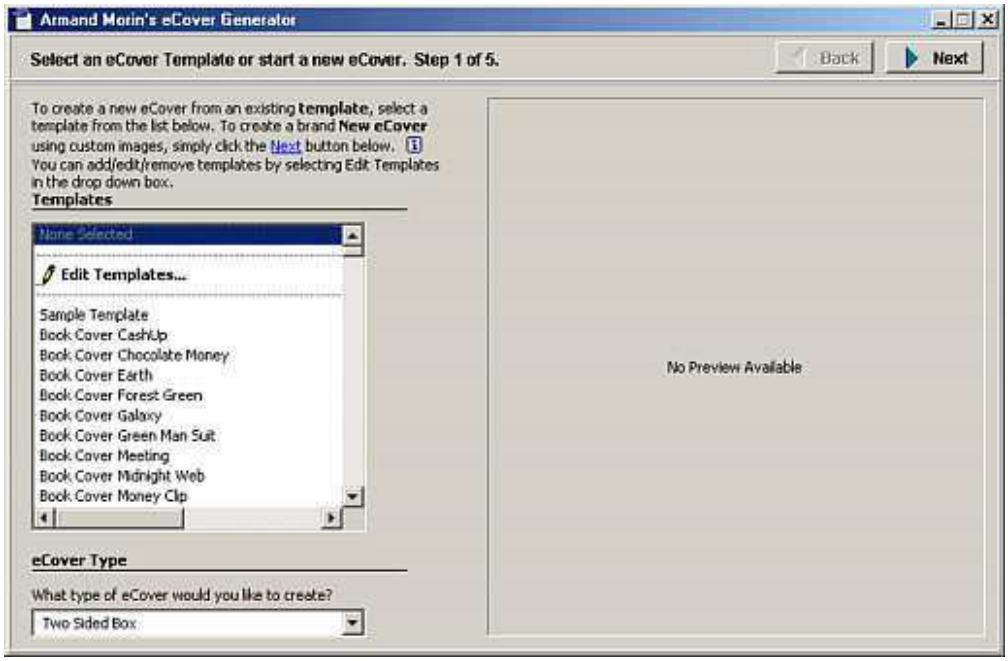
Version 2.0 User Manual and Tutorial

By www.WindowsSoftware.US

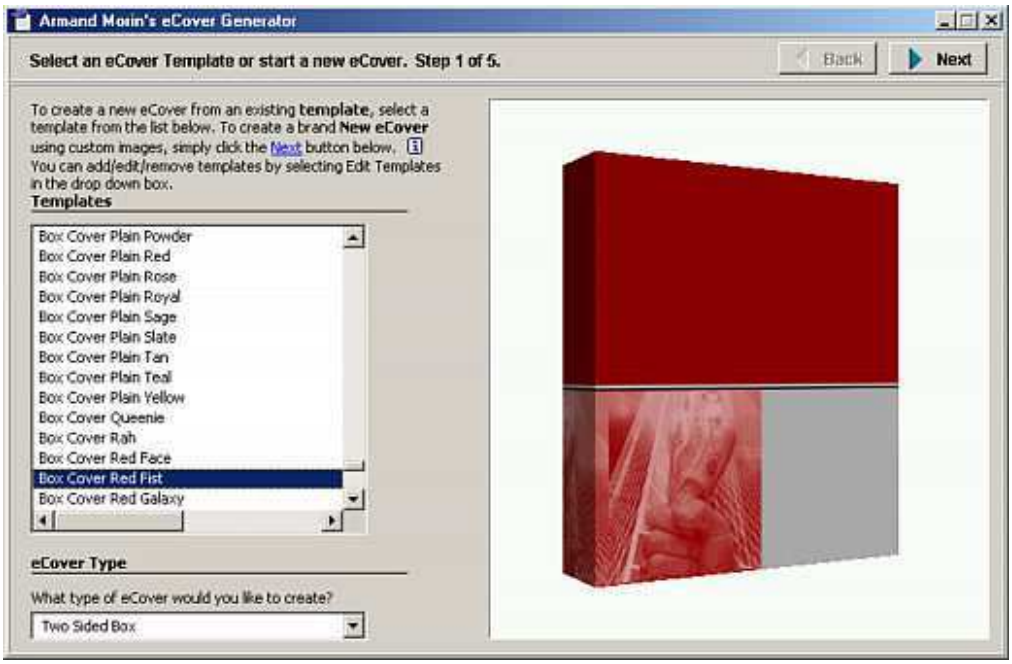
Please NOTE IMPORTANT: If Template Images donot apear or all Template names in list ! you need to (click edit template) above the list and set the folder path to each image you are going to use inthe template folder ,the template folder is in the ecover software directory,that was installed,you can also make your own templates in that template folder ,just follow the layout.

Intro and Step 1

Welcome to the eCover Generator v 2.0 tutorial! We'll go through the program step by step. First, let's open the program. Go to Start/Programs and select eCover Generator. This window will appear:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select an eCover Template or start a new eCover. Step 1 of 5.
Back
Next
To create a new eCover from an existing template, select a template from the list below. To create a brand New eCover using custom images, simply click the Next button below.
You can add/edit/remove templates by selecting Edit Templates in the drop down box.
Templates
None Selected
Edit Templates...
Sample Template
Book Cover CashUp
Book Cover Chocolate Money
Book Cover Earth
Book Cover Forest Green
Book Cover Galaxy
Book Cover Green Man Suit
Book Cover Meeting
Book Cover Midnight Web
Book Cover Money Clip
No Preview Available
eCover Type
What type of eCover would you like to create?
Two Sided Box

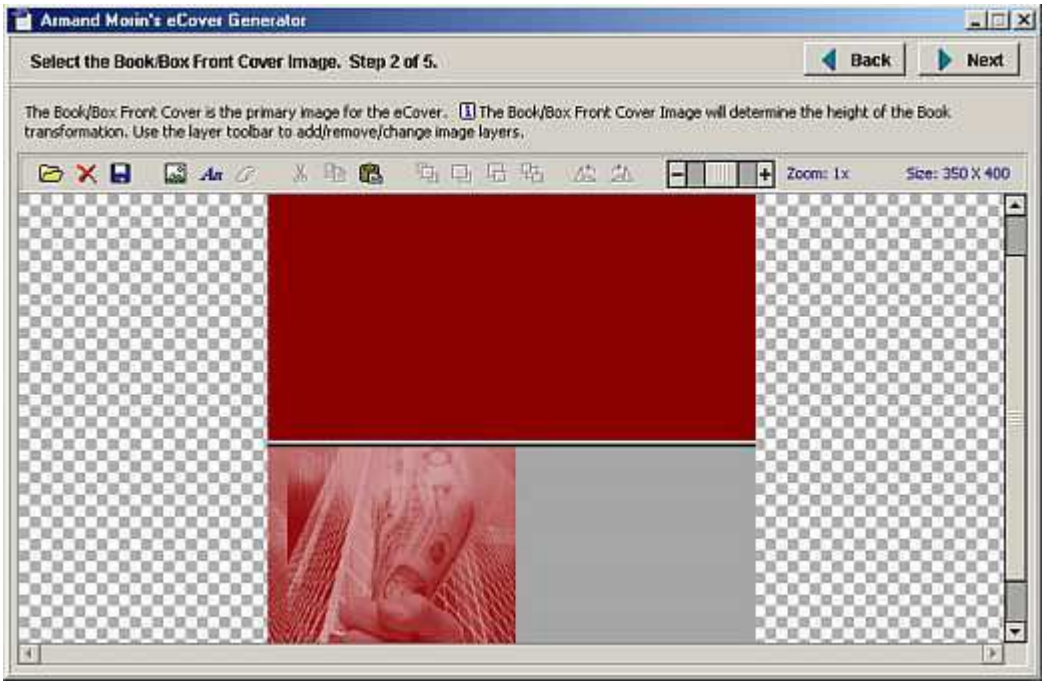
First, decide what kind of cover you'd like to make--book, cd, report, 2 or 3 sided box, etc., by choosing from the drop-down menu at the bottom of the window. (Don't worry, you can always change it later, and I'll show you how!) For our purposes here, I'll be using the 3 sided box cover. If you'd like to use one of our customizable templates, click on one of the template names on the left side to highlight it. You'll see the preview appear in the right side of the window, like this:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select an eCover Template or start a new eCover. Step 1 of 5.
Back
Next
To create a new eCover from an existing template, select a template from the list below. To create a brand New eCover using custom images, simply click the Next button below.
You can add/edit/remove templates by selecting Edit Templates in the drop down box.
Templates
Box Cover Plain Powder
Box Cover Plain Red
Box Cover Plain Rose
Box Cover Plain Royal
Box Cover Plain Sage
Box Cover Plain Slate
Box Cover Plain Tan
Box Cover Plain Teal
Box Cover Plain Yellow
Box Cover Queenie
Box Cover Rah
Box Cover Red Face
Box Cover Red Fist
Box Cover Red Galaxy
eCover Type
What type of eCover would you like to create?
Two Sided Box

When you find one you'd like to use, click Next. This will take you on to Step 2.

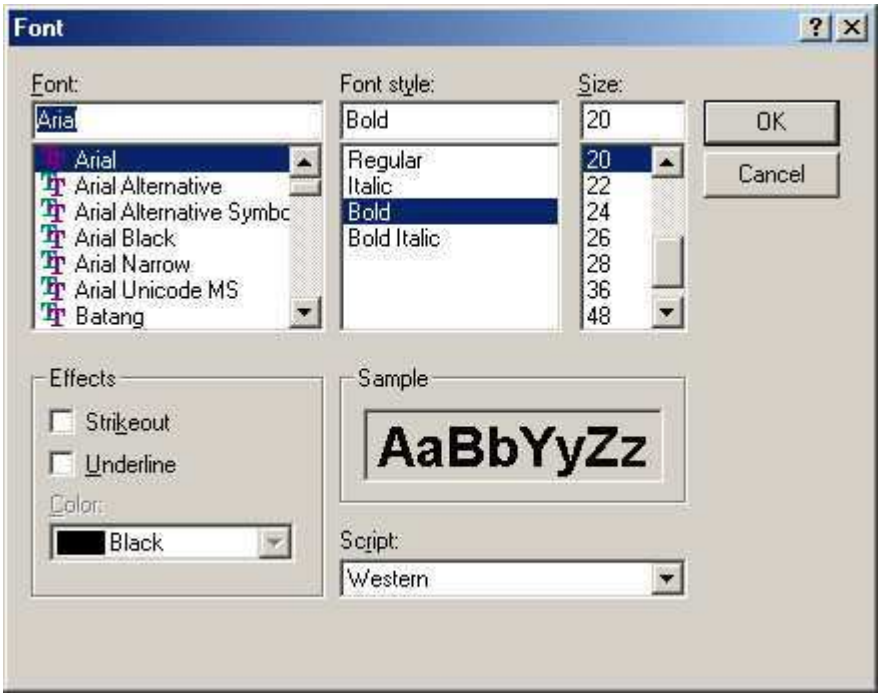
eCover Generator v 2.0 Tutorial
Step 2

You're now looking at this window:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Front Cover Image. Step 2 of 5.
Back
Next
The Book/Box Front Cover is the primary image for the eCover. The Book/Box Front Cover Image will determine the height of the Book.
transformation. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 350 X 400

This shows you the front of your book or box cover. Now it's time to customize. Let's start with words. To add text, click the Aa symbol located above the cover image, and toward the left. There's

When you enter your text in the field at the bottom of the window, you'll see it previewed at the top. If you'd like to change the font, click the Font button at the left of the window. You'll see this window:

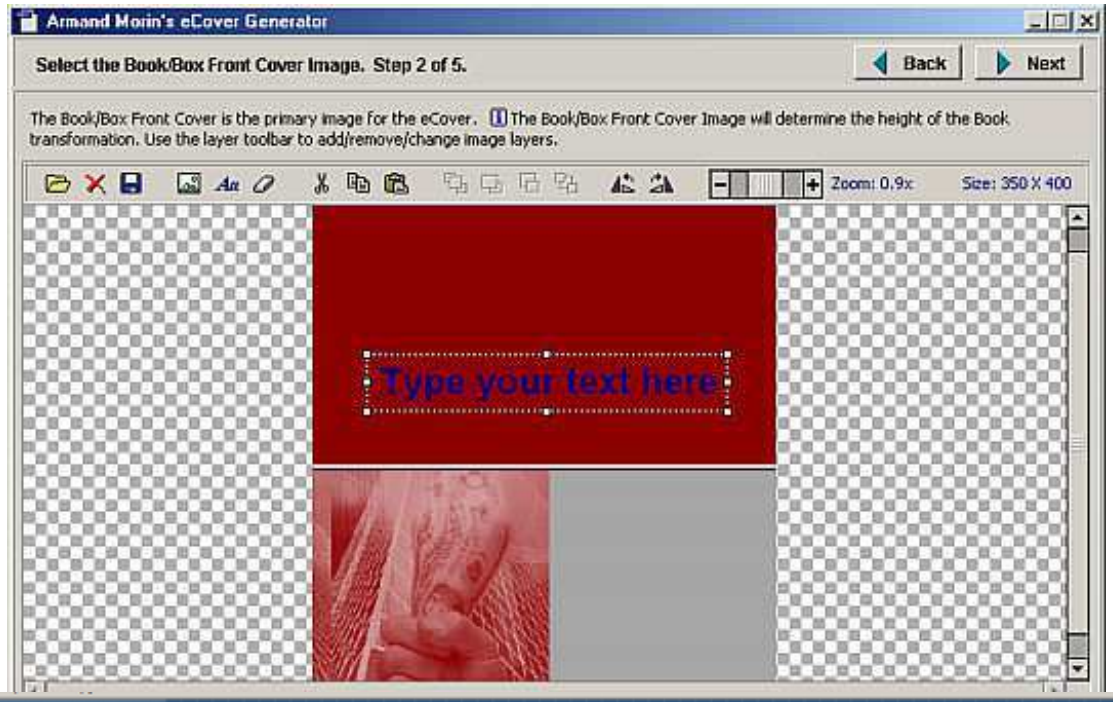


Select the font, font style and size using the three fields at the top, then select the effects you'd like, if any, including any color change, in the lower left hand field. When you've got your selections made,

You may change the color of your text more specifically using the Color button (which is directly under the Font button). This brings up the following window:

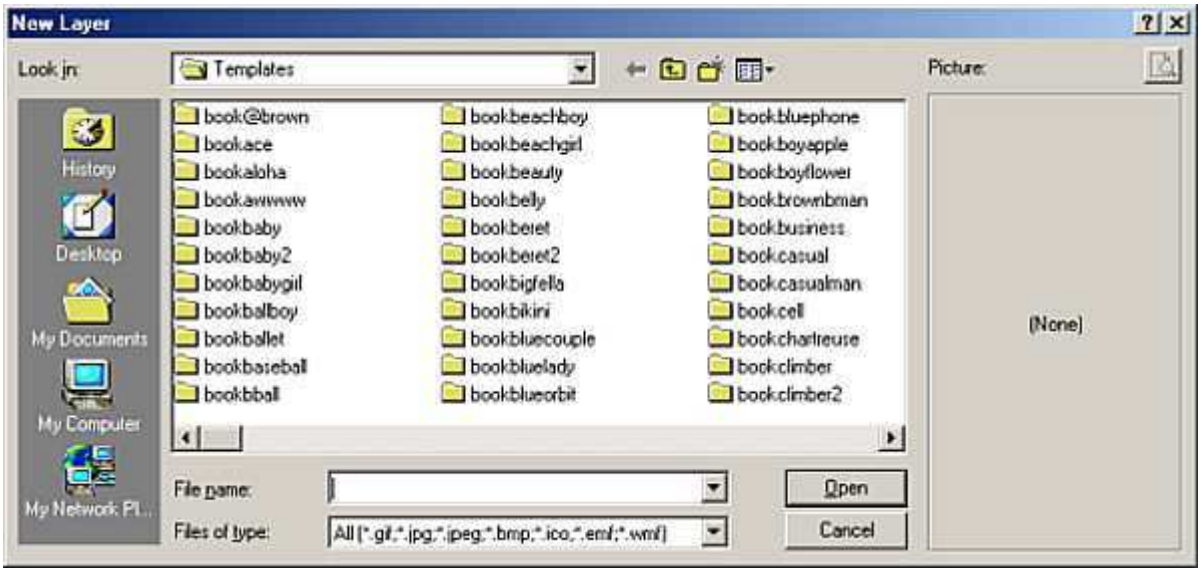
Select the desired color and click OK to return to the New Text Layer window again. You may select the shadow option here as well. If you check the box marked Shadow at the left of the window (right under Font and Color), you'll see the X, Y and Intensity fields become active, and you'll see the resulting shadow appear in the topmost field:

Play around with the X and Y numbers, as well as the intensity and see how you can position the shadow and lighten/darken it to your own tastes. Do the same with the Transparency. Perhaps you'd like an image to show through the text? See what works best for your particular project. Checking the Bevel box (to the right) will give a 3-D appearance to your text. When you've got it the way you want it, click OK to return to the program. You'll see the front of your cover, now with your text:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Front Cover Image. Step 2 of 5.
Back
Next
The Book/Box Front Cover is the primary image for the eCover. The Book/Box Front Cover Image will determine the height of the Book transformation. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 0.9x
Size: 350 X 400
Type your text here

Move your text by dragging it to the desired area. You can add as many different text layers as you like. For example, you might have a large, bold font for your title, a medium font for a subtitle or description, a small font for the author's name, and perhaps some font of different color for those particulars you want to be noticed!

If you'd like to add an image to your cover, click the button I mentioned before, with the little mountain scene on it. This button is right beside the Aa text button. When you click it, you'll come to this window:

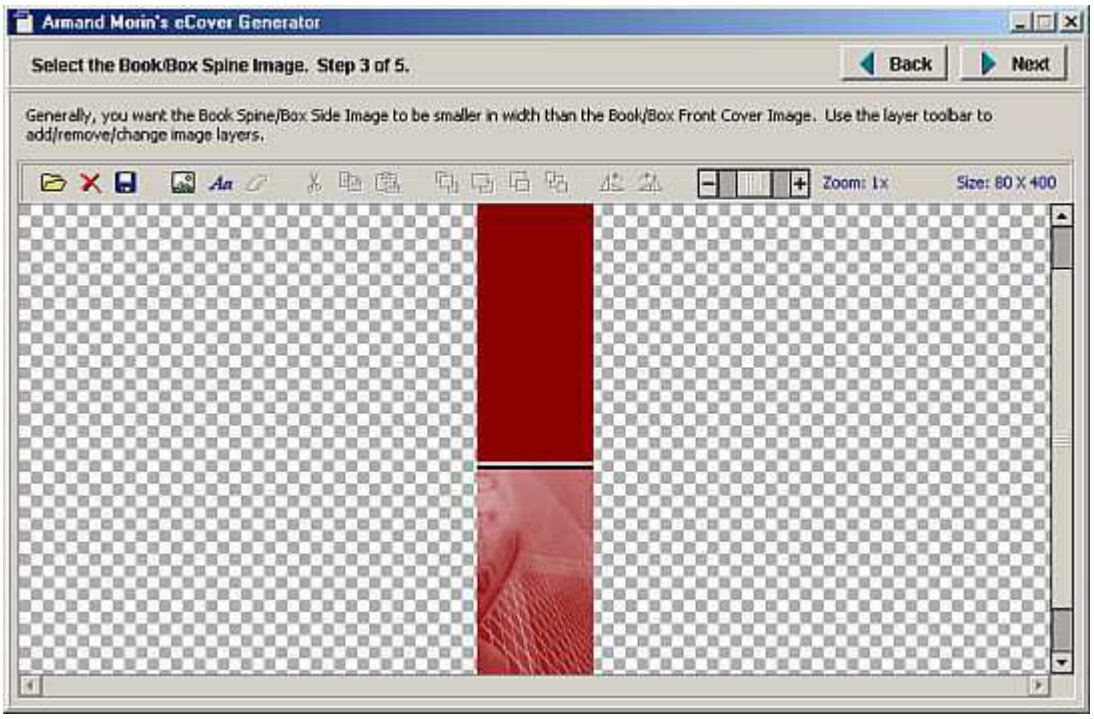


Locate the image on your hard drive and click Open. You'll go back to Step 2, now with your picture in place. Move the image to the desired location on your cover and continue on to Step 3 by clicking Next.

Back On to Step 3!

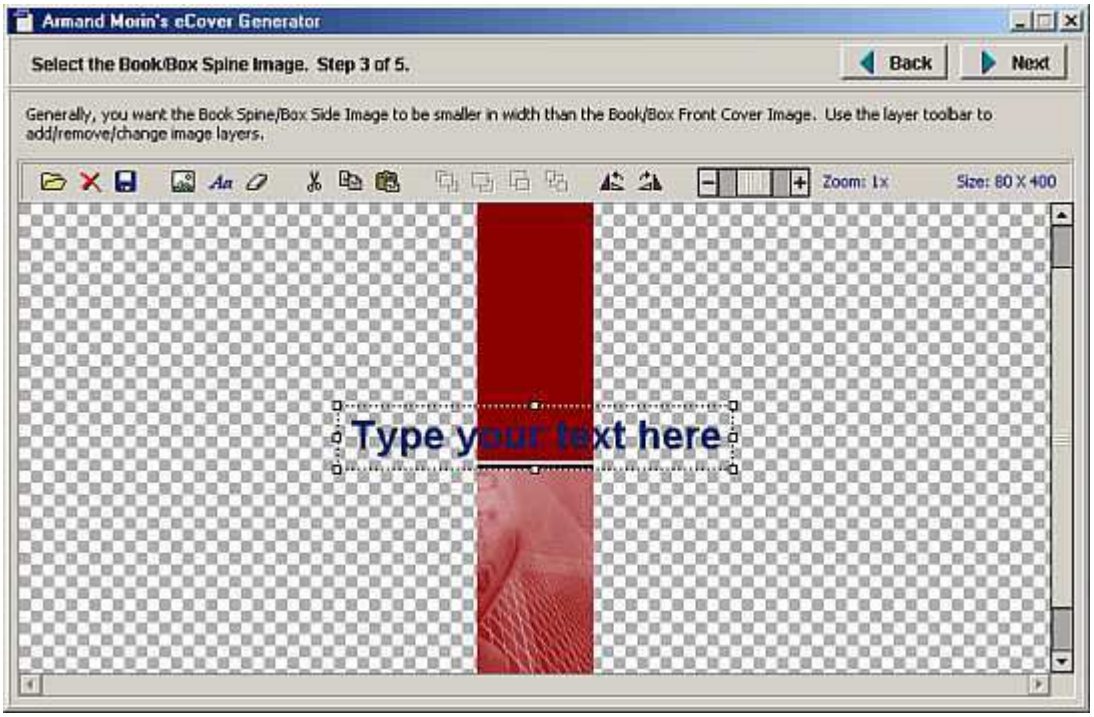
eCover Generator v 2.0 Tutorial
Step 3

Now you're looking at this window:

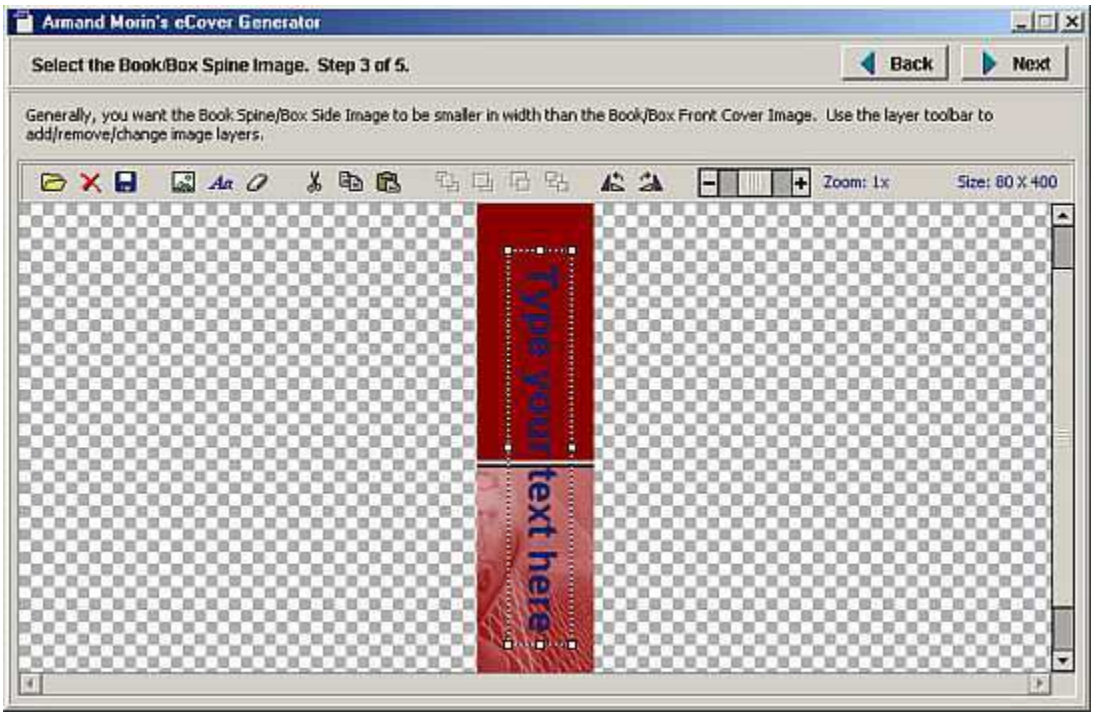

Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Spine Image. Step 3 of 5.
Back
Next
Generally, you want the Book Spine/Box Side Image to be smaller in width than the Book/Box Front Cover Image. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 80 X 400

This is the side image for your box (or spine for a book cover). To add text to your side image, you'll click on the Aa button again, as in the last step. Again, you'll see this window appear:

Type in the desired text, changing the font, color, transparency, etc. as before, adding and adjusting a shadow if you like. Then click OK. You'll see your text in the field with the side image like this:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Spine Image. Step 3 of 5.
Back
Next
Generally, you want the Book Spine/Box Side Image to be smaller in width than the Book/Box Front Cover Image. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 80 X 400
Type your text here

Now you need to turn the text to read from top to bottom on the image. You do this by clicking one of the rotation buttons. If you look at the row of buttons above the checkerboard field, just to the right of your spine image, you'll see two buttons with pictures of triangles. To turn your text 90 degrees to the right, choose the button on the right. 90 degrees to the left, click the left of these two triangle buttons. I'll use the right, or clockwise rotation--the button on the right:

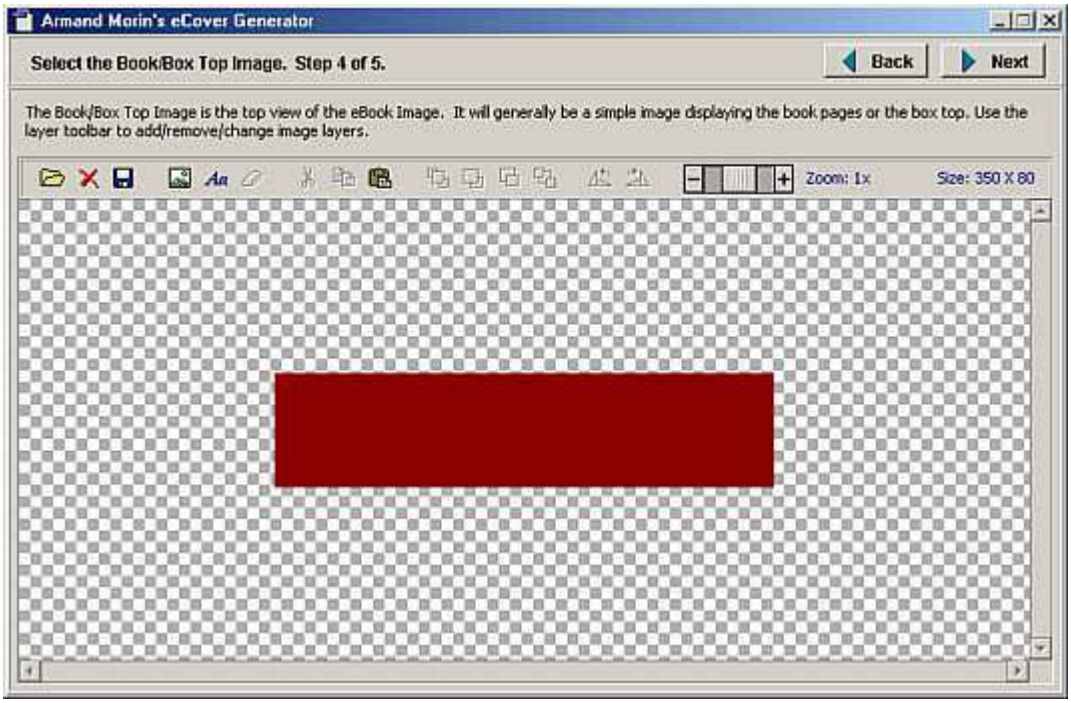

Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Spine Image. Step 3 of 5.
Back
Next
Generally, you want the Book Spine/Box Side Image to be smaller in width than the Book/Box Front Cover Image. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 80 X 400
Type your text here

pattern used in the last step. Click the picture button just to the left of the Aa button, locate your image and click OK. Then position your image where you want it on the side of your box. When your side image is the way you want it, click Next to move on to Step 4.

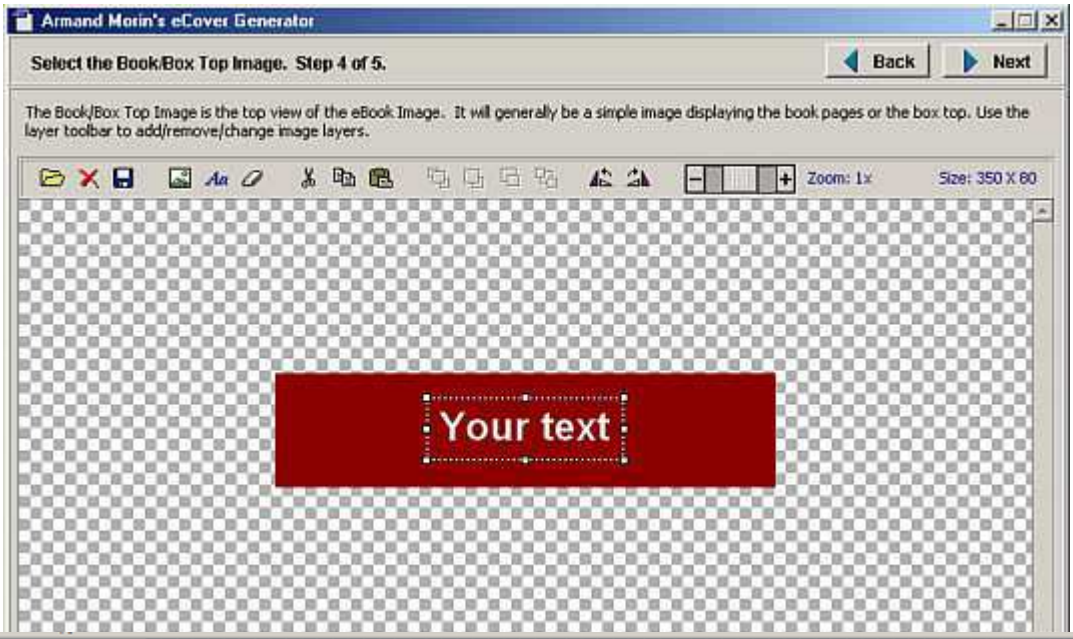
Back On to Step 4!

eCover Generator v 2.0 Tutorial
Step 4

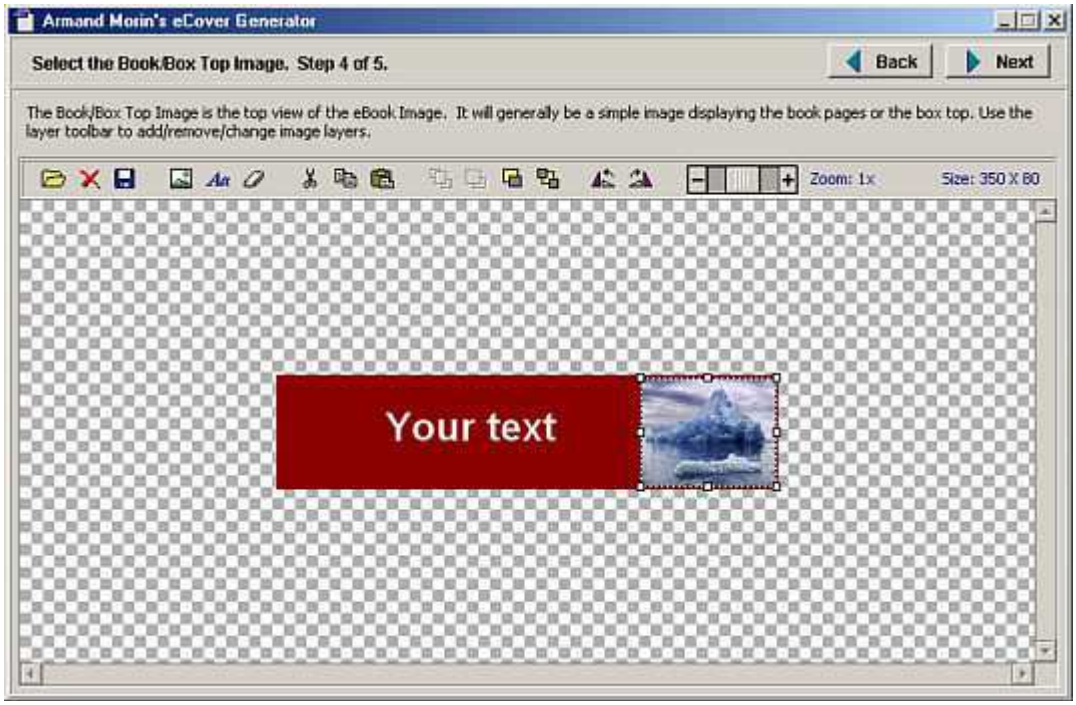
Now, if you chose a two sided box cover, a book cover, or any other cover that requires only 2 images, the program will automatically take you past this step and on to Step 5. For those of you who need the third, or top image, here we go. You're looking at this window now:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Top Image. Step 4 of 5.
Back
Next
The Book/Box Top Image is the top view of the eBook Image. It will generally be a simple image displaying the book pages or the box top. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 350 X 80

This will be the top of your box. The same rules apply here as in the last two steps. To add text, click the Aa button, type in your text, change the font, color, shadow, and anything else you like, and click OK. Your text will appear in the Step 4 window like this:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Top Image. Step 4 of 5.
Back
Next
The Book/Box Top Image is the top view of the eBook Image. It will generally be a simple image displaying the book pages or the box top. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 350 X 80
Your text

Same goes for any images you'd like to add. I'll add one here for you:

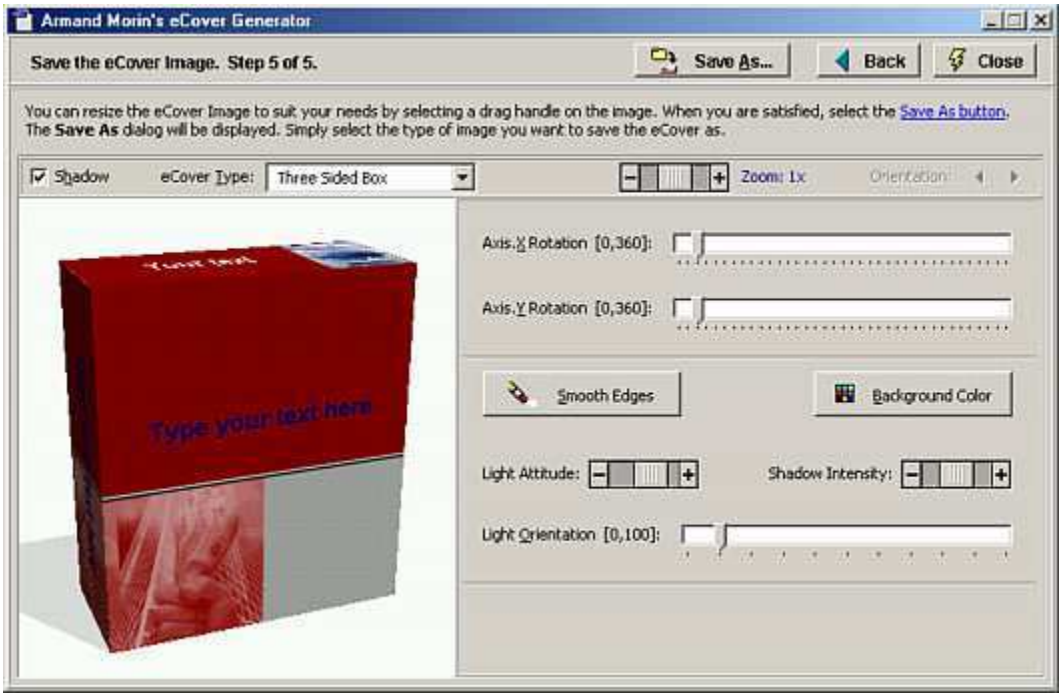

Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Select the Book/Box Top Image. Step 4 of 5.
Back
Next
The Book/Box Top Image is the top view of the eBook Image. It will generally be a simple image displaying the book pages or the box top. Use the layer toolbar to add/remove/change image layers.
Zoom: 1x
Size: 350 X 80
Your text

Position everything the way you want it, and click Next to finish up!

Back On to Step 5!

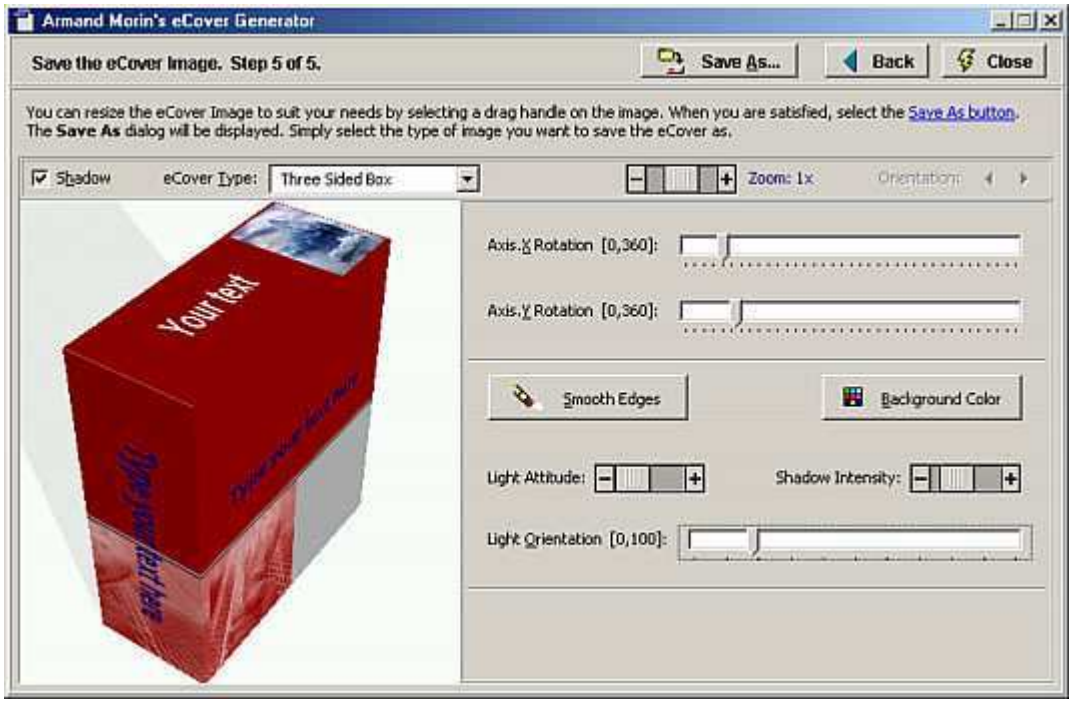
eCover Generator v 2.0 Tutorial
Step 5

Ok, we're almost done! Now you're looking at a compiled cover in this window:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Save the eCover Image. Step 5 of 5.
Save As...
Back
Close
You can resize the eCover Image to suit your needs by selecting a drag handle on the image. When you are satisfied, select the Save As button.
The Save As dialog will be displayed. Simply select the type of image you want to save the eCover as.
Shadow
eCover Type:
Three Sided Box
Zoom: 1x
Orientation:
Type your text here
Axis X Rotation [0,360]:
Axis Y Rotation [0,360]:
Smooth Edges
Background Color
Light Attitude:
Shadow Intensity:
Light Orientation [0,100]:

Believe it or not, here's where it gets neat! I'm going to go through the features one by one. First, the shadow. At the left hand side of the window, just above the compiled image, you'll see the shadow option. If it's checked, as above, you'll see a shadow behind your book. Now, you can change the attitude, intensity and orientation by using the slides at the bottom of the window, to the right of the image. Light Attitude will cause the shadow to be shorter or longer. Shadow Intensity will cause the shadow to be lighter or darker. Light Orientation is the cool one. This causes the light source to change around your book cover. You choose from where you want the light to come, causing the shadow to change accordingly. Play with it and see what you like best.

Now let's talk about Axis Rotation. The two slides at the middle of the window on the right hand side labeled Axis X Rotation and Axis Y Rotation allow you to spin your cover on an axis. The X axis will spin your cover from top to bottom. You could be looking full at the top of your book or box, or stop at any "camera angle" you choose. Try it out! Axis Y Rotation will spin your cover from side to side (like the earth spins on its axis). Just for fun, I turned this cover to a strange angle, using both

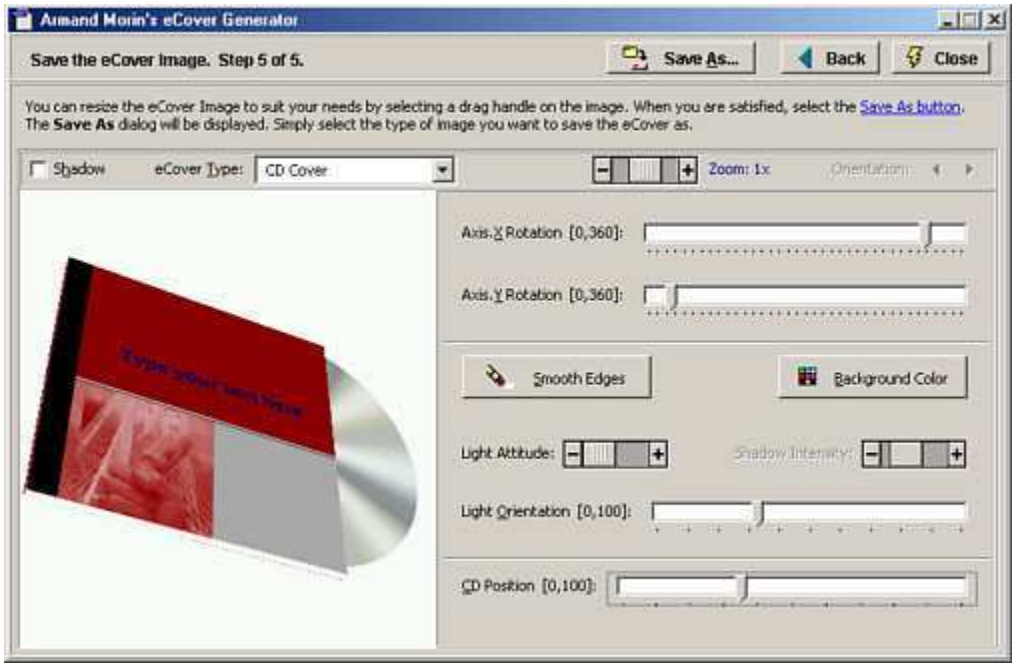

Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Save the eCover Image. Step 5 of 5.
Save As...
Back
Close
You can resize the eCover Image to suit your needs by selecting a drag handle on the image. When you are satisfied, select the Save As button.
The Save As dialog will be displayed. Simply select the type of image you want to save the eCover as.
Shadow
eCover Type:
Three Sided Box
Zoom: 1x
Orientation:
Your text
Axis X Rotation [0,360]:
Axis Y Rotation [0,360]:
Smooth Edges
Background Color
Light Attitude:
Shadow Intensity:
Light Orientation [0,100]:

You try a bunch of different combinations and see what works best for your own cover. These different angles can really make your cover stand out in a crowd!

If you'd like to choose a different background color (the white area around your box cover), click the Background Color button at the right of the window, just above Shadow Intensity. You'll see this:

Choose your color and click OK. You'll see the change appear back at the Step 5 window.

Let's go back to the top of the window now, and just beside the Shadow option, you'll see the eCover Type option. In my example you see Three Sided Box. If you click the dropdown menu, you'll see a list of all the different covers that eCover Generator can make. Try them out! My personal favorite is the CD cover:


Armand Morin's eCover Generator
Save the eCover Image. Step 5 of 5.
Save As...
Back
Close
You can resize the eCover Image to suit your needs by selecting a drag handle on the image. When you are satisfied, select the Save As button.
The Save As dialog will be displayed. Simply select the type of image you want to save the eCover as.
Shadow
eCover Type:
CD Cover
Zoom: 1x
Orientation:
Axis X Rotation [0,360]:
Axis Y Rotation [0,360]:
Smooth Edges
Background Color
Light Attitude:
Shadow Intensity:
Light Orientation [0,100]:
CD Position [0,100]:

Note here that you control how the cd is positioned in the cover!

In any case, when you get your cover exactly the way you want it, the time has come to save your finished image. At the top of the window you'll see the Save As button. Click it, and this window appears:

Save your finished cover to a handy location by naming it in the File Name field, choosing a type (.gif, .jpg, .bmp, etc.) in the Save As Type field, and choosing the location in the Save In field at the top. Then click Save.

That's it! You can either click the Close button at the top of your eCover Generator window, or you can go back to Step 1 and try another one! Whatever you do, have fun with it.

Enjoy, and Best of Success,

Ahmad Mojo

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